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15. (Amended) The apparatus in accordance with claim 14 for use in conjunction with a digital transmission and receiving system which includes a BER measuring device operable during a selected sampling period.

REMARKS

In the above-mentioned Office Action, all of the pending claims, claims 1-16 were rejected. Claims 1-5, 6, 8, 10 and 12-16 were rejected under Section 103(a) over the combination of *Parisel* and *Besharet*. Claims 7 and 9 were rejected under Section 103(a) over the combination of *Parisel*, *Besharet* and *Obayashi*. And, claim 11 was rejected under Section 103(a) over the combination of *Parisel*, *Besharet* and *Detlef*. Claims 1-12 were further rejected under Section 112, second paragraph for various informalities in claims 1, 2, 6, 7 and 11. Objection was further made to claim 15 for a missing word and to the drawings for failing to show a time-out circuit, as recited in claim 16.

Responsive to the rejection of the claims, independent claims 1, 6, and 13 have been amended, as noted herein, and various of the dependent claims have been amended responsive to amendments made to their respective parent claims. The amendments to the claims are believed to distinguish better the present invention over the cited combinations of references.

Support for the amendments to the claims can be found, for instance, on page 8, lines 11-21, and page 5, lines 1-8.

With respect to exemplary claim 1, a step of inspecting is now recited in which a received signal is inspected to determine its quality at least in terms of a percentage of acceptable. And,

the step of providing the user discernible indication is recited now to be indicative of the quality of the received signal in terms of the percentage of acceptable. Independent claims 6 and 13 have been analogously amended.

Review of the primary references of *Parisel* and *Besharet* fail to disclose such operation alone or in any combination.

The Examiner acknowledged that *Parisel* fails to disclose a step of providing a user discernible indication but relies on *Besharet* for providing a user discernible indication that is correlated to the quality of a receive signal. *Besharet*, however, appears to disclose, in conjunction with a battery-saving scheme, an out-of-range icon that is displayed on a display 128 responsive to an out-of-range notification (column 8, lines 37-41). And, while column 2, lines 63-66 of *Besharet* notes that the bit error rate is monitored, there is no disclosure of the manner by which a user discernible indication indicative of the quality of a received signal in terms of a percentage of acceptable, is displayed.

Obayashi was cited merely for showing a BER code, not for showing a user discernible indication of the quality of the receive signal in terms of the percentage of acceptable. And, *Detlef* was cited merely for showing a wireless communication system in which a user is given an audio warning signal.

No combination of these four references, therefore, can be made to form the invention, as now recited.

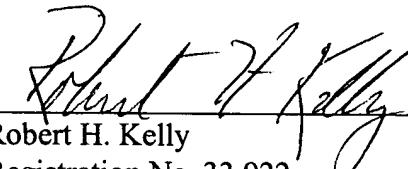
Additional amendments to claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, and 11 are believed to believed to overcome the Section 112 rejections thereof. Claim 15 has additionally been amended to overcome the objection made thereto. And, claim 16 has been amended, thereby, overcoming the objection to the drawings.

Because the dependent claims include all the limitations of their respective parent claims, the dependent claims are believed to be patentably distinguishable over the cited combinations of references for the same reasons as those given with respect to their respective parent claims.

In light of the foregoing, independent claims 1, 6, and 13, and the dependent claims thereon, are believed to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reexamination and reconsideration for allowance of these claims is respectfully requested. Such early action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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APPENDIX A

Amended Specification, marked to show changes:

For example, the present invention can operate in conjunction with a display 20, shown in FIG. 2, contained on a mobile phone or cell-phone. In this display, a series of bars 21, 22 and 23 along the left side reflect various signal strength indications. Whenever the signal quality decision 12 in an active digital mode determines that the Bit Error Rate (BER) is at or near 0.0%, indicators bars 21-23 on the left side are shown constant without blinking. If the signal quality deteriorates such that the BER drops below a minimum value such as a BER greater than 4%, left indicators 21-23 are caused to start blinking. The initiation of the blinking can occur after a preselected time-out such as 0.5 seconds, for example.

APPENDIX B

Amended claims, marked to show changes:

1. (Amended) The method of indicating the quality of a received signal at a mobile phone, the received signal sent to the mobile phone by a remote transmitter, said method comprising the steps of:

detecting reception of the received [receiving a] signal from [a] the remote transmitter at the mobile phone,

inspecting said received signal for determining its quality at least in terms of a percentage of acceptable,

providing an output correlated to the results of said inspecting step, and

providing a user discernible indication in response to said output provided doing said operation of providing the output, the user discernable indication indicative of the quality of the received signal in terms of the percentage of acceptable.

2. (Amended) The method in accordance with claim 1 in which said inspecting step includes the step of comparing said received signal with a predetermined threshold, and

said providing the output step includes the step of generating a first output whenever said comparing step has met said predetermined threshold and for otherwise generating a second output different from said first output, the second output indicative of the quality of the received signal in terms of the percentage of acceptable.

5. (Amended) The method in accordance with claim 1 wherein said providing the user discernible indication step includes the step of establishing a visual indicator for said user discernible indication.

6. (Amended) The method of indicating the quality of a received signal at a mobile phone, the received signal sent to the mobile phone by a remote transmitter, said method comprising the steps of

detecting reception of the received [receiving a] signal from [a] the remote transmitter at the mobile phone,

separating control signals from voice signals,

inspecting said received voice signal for determining its quality is at least either above or below a predetermined threshold, the predetermined threshold forming a boundary condition, and the voice signal, when of a quality less than the predetermined threshold, indicated in terms of a percentage of acceptable,

providing an output correlated to the results of said inspecting step, and

providing a user discernible indication in response to said output.

7. (Amended) The method in accordance with claim 6 wherein said inspecting step includes the step of quantifying the amount, in terms of the percentage of acceptable, by which said [audio] voice signal fails to meet said predetermined threshold, and

said user discernible indication step includes the step of correlating the amount of said user discernible indication to the result of said quantifying step.

9. (Amended) The method of claim 8 wherein the amount of said display pulsation is correlated to the amount, in terms of the percentage of acceptable, said received voice signal departs from said predetermined threshold level.

11. (Amended) The method in accordance with claim 10 which includes the step of correlating the magnitude of said [audio] voice signal to the amount of departure of said [audio] voice signal from said predetermined threshold.

13. (Amended) Apparatus for indicating the quality of a received signal at a mobile phone, said apparatus comprising:

a signal receiving antenna on the mobile phone for receiving signals transmitted from a remote location,

a signal quality determining arrangement in said mobile phone coupled for inspecting said received signal in terms of a percentage of acceptable and providing an output signal indicative thereof, and

a user discernible indication generator operable in response to said output signal, said user discernable indication generator for generating an indication indicative of the quality of the received signal in terms of the percentage of acceptable.

14. (Amended) Apparatus in accordance with claim 13 in which said signal quality determining arrangement includes a comparator coupled for comparing said received signal with a predetermined threshold, said comparator generating a first output whenever said received signal has met said threshold and for otherwise generating a second output different from said first output, the second output indicative of the quality of the received signal in terms of the percentage of the acceptable.

15. (Amended) The apparatus in accordance with claim 14 for use in conjunction with a digital transmission and receiving system which includes a BER measuring device operable during a selected sampling period.